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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHORLEY.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1956.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
STAFF.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.	J. Walker, M.B., Ch. B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.	R.H. Grayson, Cert., R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.
DEPUTY SANITARY INSPECTOR.	R. Hilton, Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.
ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.	K.W. McFarlane, Cert, R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

In addition the Department has a full-time junior clerk (female).

A Rodent Operator is also employed.

Outside staff is engaged on scavenging.

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHORLEY.

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Gillibrand Street,  
CHORLEY.  
Lancashire.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1956.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mrs. Carrington and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my Report for the year 1956.

AREA.

There was no change in the District during the year, the area is 41,114 acres.

The District encircles the Municipal Borough of Chorley, and is bounded on the North by Walton-le-Dale U.D., Leyland U.D., and Preston R.D., on the South by Wigan R.D., Standish U.D., Adlington U.D., and Horwich U.D., on the West by West Lancashire R.D., and on the East by Blackburn R.D., Withnell U.D., and Turton U.D.

The District is varied in character, and whilst there is considerable industry, some parts of the District are really rural.

Agriculture predominates in the area which has its share of rich agricultural land. In addition there is of course cotton spinning and weaving, mining, the Royal Ordnance factory in the District is an industry on its own, brickmaking is carried on in several parishes, and the old craft of basket making is still carried on in Mawdesley. There are in addition vast industries in some of the adjoining areas which provide work for residents of the District.

POPULATION.

The estimated population (Registrar General's Figure) for Mid 1956 is 27,240.

The following figures give the population since 1946 and show the variation:-

<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
25,430	26,150	26,940	27,360	27,510	27,150	27,260	27,090	27,240	27,200	27,240

The Census figure for 1931 was 23,633

The Census figure for 1951 was 27,198.

INHABITED HOUSES.

The Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1956 was 8,618.

RATEABLE VALUE.

The Rateable value of the District is - £273,945.

The sum represented by a penny rate is - £1,126.

# S T A T I S T I C S.

## BIRTH RATE.

### Live Births

#### Total. Males. Females.

Legitimate	362	192	170
Illegitimate	5	3	2
	<u>367</u>	<u>195</u>	<u>172</u>

Birth Rate (crude) per 1,000 estimated civilian population	13.5
Birth Rate (adjusted) per 1,000 estimated civilian population	14.4
Birth Rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales	15.7

### Still Births.

#### Total. Males. Females.

Legitimate	9	5	4
Illegitimate	1	1	-
	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>

The Rate per 1,000 civilian population is	0.37
The Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales	0.37

## DEATH RATE.

#### Total. Males. Females.

327 166 161

The Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population is	12.0
The Adjusted rate per 1,000 estimated population is	13.9
The Death Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales is	11.7

## Infantile Deaths.

The Death Rate of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births is	14.0
The Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales is	23.8
There were actually 5 infantile deaths.	

The above-mentioned rate is the lowest on record for the District.

## MATERNAL DEATHS.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

The following table gives the figures for the past fourteen years.

YEAR	LIVE BIRTH RATE		STILL BIRTH RATE	DEATH RATE		INFANTILE DEATH RATE	MATERNAL DEATHS.
	Chorley R.D.	England and Wales.	Chorley R.D. (per 1,000 live and still Births.)	Chorley R.D.	England and Wales.	Chorley R.D. (per 1,000 live births).	Chorley R.D.
1942	15.8	15.8	50.0	11.0	11.6	43	2
1943	18.3	16.5	38.0	12.0	12.1	52	2
1944	19.3	17.6	33.5	11.6	11.6	33	2
1945	15.2	16.1	42.0	11.9	11.4	50	-
1946	18.2	19.1	27.0	10.5	11.5	36	1
1947	20.4	20.5	27.0	12.3	12.0	50	-
1948	18.1	17.9	25.0	10.4	10.8	32	-
1949	15.9	16.7	18.0	12.5	11.7	32	-
1950	15.0	15.8	23.0	13.0	11.6	38	-
1951	14.0	15.5	28.0	14.0	12.5	32	-
1952	14.2	15.3	23.0	12.2	11.3	26	2
1953	14.6	15.5	27.0	11.3	11.4	35	-
1954	13.5	15.2	29.0	12.2	11.3	22	-
1955	13.0	15.0	25.0	11.9	11.7	42	-
1956	13.5	15.7	27.0	12.0	11.7	14	-

DEATHS FROM.

YEAR	<u>CANCER</u> (all ages)	<u>MEASLES</u> (all ages)	<u>WHOPING COUGH</u> (all ages)	<u>DIARRHOEA</u> (under 2 years of age).
1942	43	-	2	3
1943	32	-	-	1
1944	51	-	-	1
1945	42	-	1	-
1946	38	-	-	-
1947	42	-	2	3
1948	45	-	-	2
1949	27	-	1	1
1950	50	-	1	-
1951	45	-	-	4
1952	48	-	-	1
1953	55	-	-	2
1954	39	-	-	-
1955	37	-	-	-
1956	46	-	-	-



# ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

CAUSE.	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
Tuberculosis (all forms)	1	-	1
Syphilitic disease.	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.	1	-	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases.	-	-	-
Cancer (all forms)	25	21	46
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	-	1	1
Diabetes.	2	-	2
Vascular Lesions of nervous system.	26	34	60
Heart Diseases.	65	60	125
Other Circulatory Diseases.	5	8	13
Influenza.	-	1	1
Pneumonia.	8	-	8
Bronchitis.	4	8	12
Other Respiratory Diseases.	4	2	6
Ulcer of Stomach.	-	1	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.	2	-	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis.	1	6	7
Hypertrophy of prostate.	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations.	-	1	1
Other defined and illdefined diseases.	8	12	20
Motor Vehicle accidents.	3	2	5
All other accidents.	7	2	9
Suicide.	3	2	5
TOTAL	166	161	327

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Infectious cases from this area are now sent to Deepdale Isolation Hospital, Preston.

The total number of infectious diseases notified during the year was 381.

This figure is considerably higher than the previous year (211).

Reference to pages 6 and 7 show the difference is caused in the main by the increase in the cases of Measles and Whooping Cough reported, there were also 15 more cases of Scarlet Fever.

There were no cases of diphtheria.

There was one case of food poisoning in the District during the year, the person concerned was a long distance lorry driver and the causative organism (*Salmonella Stanley*) leads to the conclusion that he contracted the sickness well outside the area.

There were two cases of acute poliomyelitis (paralytic) reported, and unfortunately one case, a man of middle age, proved fatal.

Page 2 gives the diseases notified in parish order.

### Disinfection of Premises.

Terminal disinfection is still carried out, and during the year 45 premises were disinfected.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (after correction)  
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1956.

	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.											Age un- known
	Total cases at all ages.	AGE PERIODS - YEARS.										
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 and over		
Scarlet Fever	48	-	1	2	3	4	33	3	2	-	-	
Whooping Cough	64	3	6	12	7	3	32	-	-	1	-	
Croup, epiglottitis (Paralytic)	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
(Non-paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Measles (excluding rubella)	242	5	12	27	26	34	127	7	3	1	-	
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dysentery	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		0-	5-	15-	45-	65 and over	Age unknown					
Croup, pneumonia (prim. and infl'zal. Secondary)	10	3	2	-	3	2	-					
Croup, pneumonia (Infective)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Post-infectious	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Enteric or typhoid fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Erysipeloid	1	-	-	-	1	-	-					
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	1	-	-	-					
Gas gangrene - Respiratory	2	-	-	6	2	1	-					
Measles and C.M.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Other	2	-	1	1	-	-	-					
Scarlet fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Other notified diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					
Total	301											



TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)  
NOTIFIED DURING THE PAST 10 YEARS.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	YEAR.									
	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947
Scarlet Fever	48	33	31	91	88	71	39	104	172	51
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including membranous croup).	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	6
Enteric or typhoid fever (excluding paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles (excluding rubella)	242	141	223	265	203	285	64	402	178	252
Whooping Cough	64	8	51	80	47	83	96	63	49	125
Acute pneumonia (primary and influenzal)	10	14	17	22	10	35	20	54	13	21
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	1	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	—	1	1	—	—	3	—	—	10
Acute polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute encephalitis lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	2	13	6	2	—	—	1	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas	1	—	3	2	3	—	6	4	1	2
Contracted in England and Wales	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria Abroad	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	1	62	25	—	—	1	—	—	—
Any other diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	370	199	401	493	354	475	233	630	417	467

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED  
DURING THE YEAR 1956 FROM THE VARIOUS TOWNSHIPS.

TOWNSHIP	ACUTE COLIC YELITIS	FOOD POISONING	ACUTE PNEUMONIA	DYSENTERY	ERYSIPELAS	MEASLES	SCARLET FEVER	WHOOPING COUGH	TUBERCULOSIS.		TOTAL.
									PULMONARY	NON-PULM.	
Anderton	-	-	-	-	-	31	2	3	1	-	37
Anglesarko	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brotherton	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Brindle	-	-	-	-	1	28	-	11	-	-	40
Charnock Richard	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	3	2	-	8
Clayton-le-Woods	-	-	1	-	-	33	1	-	-	-	35
Coppsall	1	-	-	1	-	11	19	10	2	2	46
Croston	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	1	-	16
Guardon	-	-	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	7
Haslestone	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
Huxton	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	-	2	-	10
Hutton	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	6	-	-	17
North Charnock	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	6	-	-	26
Ruskin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Warton	-	-	-	1	-	44	-	13	-	-	58
Widdowley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Widlington	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
Widlington	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	5
Widlington	-	-	2	-	-	3	2	5	-	-	12
Widlington	-	-	5	-	-	39	2	6	1	-	53
TOTAL.	2	1	10	2	1	242	48	64	9	2	381

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1956.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non Respiratory		Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
<u>Years.</u>								
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
10-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
75 and upwards.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5	4	-	2	1	-	-	-
	9		2		1			



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### WATER SUPPLY.

The whole of the water supplied by the Rural District Council through its mains is obtained from Manchester Corporation, the aqueduct from Thirlmere to Manchester passes through the District.

This water is supplied to nineteen of the twenty parishes which form the Rural District, Divington, the other parish, is supplied by Liverpool Corporation which has extensive water works situated in that parish.

A special investigation was carried out in Coppull following numerous complaints, loss of pressure was found to be producing effects varying from inconvenience to hardship over a large part of the township. The Council decided to remedy this condition by laying a new main from a point near the Wagon and Horses, at the junction of Chapel Lane and Coppull Moor Lane, to the centre of the built up area.

Both chemical and bacteriological examination of the water was carried out during the year.

Four chemical analyses showed the water to be satisfactory.

The bacteriological examination results which, whilst not serious, led to a decision of the Council to chlorinate all water supplied from the mains in future. The decision having been made the work was put in hand at once and chlorination of all the water accomplished very quickly, first the necessary installations were temporary and later these were replaced by permanent ones.

### SEWERAGE.

Last year I reported the completion of the Clayton-le-Woods, Heapey, Wheelton and Whittle-le-Woods, sewerage schemes. This year the completion of the scheme covering the whole of Coppull, Charnock Richard, Heskin, Eccleston and Croston can be reported. It is not true that the contract itself was entirely completed, there remained a considerable amount of work on house connections. The sewage disposal works and the trunk sewers, however, were completed and came into use in September, at the same time the two obsolete sewage disposal works at Coppull, and the ones at Eccleston and Croston were no longer required. None of these works were capable of producing satisfactory results and the fact that the effluents are no longer discharging into the streams is quite obvious.

Furthermore as the work of connecting the houses to the sewer progressed there were improvements in the sewer which had never enjoyed that condition previously, actually 230 houses and 1 school fall in this category. This allowed consideration to be given to closet conversions in places where the pail closet had been accepted in the past, and where waste water was discharged into the nearest ditch or water course. As the house connections progress such places will increase and the District will be greatly improved as a result.

The completion of these major schemes will of course emphasise what has been reported in the past, that is, the fact that there are several other parts of the District, affecting a comparatively small number of properties, the sewerage of which should be considered in order to reduce the pollution of ditches and other water courses; and at the same time increase the area where it is possible to replace the pail closet by a flush toilet with water closets.

A list of small areas in need of sewerage was submitted to, and accepted by the Council during the year, I refer to the report relating to the Whittle and the Whittle parts of the parish of Brindle.

### TOILET CONVERSION.

I must again point out that there is still a large number of pail closets and privy middens. The number is of course being reduced as the following tables show. The list of conversions has exceeded and arrangements made for a considerable number to be carried out. This would indicate that next year a record number will be started and it is of course due to the fact that in Charnock Richard and Heskin the work has been carried out, the work previously referred to has made conversion possible for the first time.

The first table shows the parishes in which conversions were carried out, and the second table shows the total conversions carried out since 1940.

CONVERSIONS CARRIED OUT IN 1956.

Parish	Pails to W.C's	Privies to W.C's	Privies to Pails	Total.
Brindle	2	..	..	2
Clayton-le-Woods	3	..	..	3
Coppull	9	22	..	31
Croston	7	2	..	9
Charnock Richard	11	..	..	11
Eccleston	4	..	..	4
Euxton	1	..	..	1
Heath Charnock	3	..	..	3
Heapey	3	..	..	3
Hoskin	30	..	..	30
Mawdosley	1	..	..	1
Wheelton	21	..	..	21
Whittle-le-Woods	15	1	..	16
Totals	110	25	..	135

In addition to the above 3 waste water closets were converted to the fresh water carriage system in the parish of Anderton.

CONVERSIONS CARRIED OUT SINCE 1940.

Year(s)	Pails to W.C's	Privies to W.C's	Privies to Pails	Total
1940-1945	21	50	44	115
1946	25	15	4	44
1947	12	38	21	71
1948	62	51	23	136
1949	120	51	6	177
1950	101	29	7	137
1951	66	29	..	95
1952	99	20	..	119
1953	103	3	..	106
1954	43	29	..	72
1955	77	40	..	117
1956	110	25	..	135
TOTALS	839	380	105	1,324



## SCAVENGING.

### Collection.

The District is scavenged by direct labour.

Pail Closets are collected and emptied by means of a cesspool emptier vehicle adapted for the collection of night-soil, this vehicle is well suited for the work and allows safe transport of collected night-soil. The use of this special vehicle has allowed the collection of night-soil to be separated from the collection of dry refuse and made it possible to consider the use of vehicles other than the standard type. During the year an S.D. Fore and Aft tipper was acquired, in addition to this there are four Karrier Bantams in regular use and another one is kept as a spare.

### Disposal.

After collection night-soil is disposed of by lagooning and by tipping into sewers. With the completion of the western sewerage scheme the disposal of night-soil has been eased a little but the disposal of it is still a matter of considerable concern.

Privy Pidden contents are disposed of on land, the quantity is being reduced gradually as closets of this type are converted to the water carriage system.

Dry refuse is disposed of by tipping and the scattered nature of the district makes it necessary to use several tips, the more numerous the tips the greater the difficulty becomes in controlling them. There are 3 main tips in use and in addition to these tipping has taken place on farms which has resulted in useless depressions and several ponds being converted into agricultural land.

The submerged clay-pit used as a tip was again a source of trouble, and arrangements were made for the owners of the site to empty the clay-pit, although it started to slowly fill again no further trouble was experienced up to the end of the year.

### SALVAGE.

27 tons of waste paper was collected and disposed of during the year, the primary object of collecting this paper was to remove it from the tips.

### DUSTBINS.

The provision of the Dustbin is still a matter which causes difficulty. Owner/Occupiers of course provide their own bins, and in many cases the bins will be provided by arrangement between the owners and occupiers, the cases brought to the notice of the Department can only be dealt with under Section 75 of the Public Health Act.

During the year 11 Notices under Section 75 were served.

In 7 cases Notices were complied with.

In 4 cases the Local Authority supplied bins in default.

F O O D.

Slaughterhouses.

The bacon factory opened in 1951 operated throughout the year, the output is shown in the table.

The six slaughterhouses which came into use in 1951 were again licensed and continued in use throughout the year, the through-put of these is also shown in the table.

The slaughterhouses are situated in the following parishes.

Coppull	2
Creston	2
Eccleston	1
Heskin	1
Heath Charnock	1 (Bacon Factory).

The premises are visited frequently and every effort is made to see the carcasses of all animals slaughtered.

The number of visits made to slaughterhouses was

781

The number of visits to the bacon factory was

107

Total

888

888

Carcases Inspected and condemned	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	661	262	10	10.809	7405	-
Number inspected	661	262	10	10.809	7405	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	3	-	3	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	54	39	-	-	488	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	8.15	14.88	33.3	-	6.63	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:-</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	2	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	14	94	-	-	128	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	2.11	36.64	-	-	1.72	-
<u>Cysticercosis:-</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

## FOOD Contd.

Numerous other inspections of foods took place, particularly at a wholesale depot, and these resulted in the following being condemned:-

Tinned Ham	439 lbs.
Tinned Ox Tongue	76 "
" Stewed Steak	136 "
" Jellied Veal	17 "
" Corned and Pressed Beef	162 "
" Meat Loaf	39 "
" Steak and Kidney	7 "
" Vegetables (various)	564 "
" Milk (pints)	629 pints.
" Fish	35 lbs.
" Fruit	1,633 "
" Preserves	75 "
" Fruit Juices	38 fluid ounces.
Cheese Spreads	14 lbs.
Tinned Soup	31 "
Luncheon Meat	102 "
Breakfast Cereals	61 packets.
Pickles and Sauces	21 lbs.
Syrup, Preserves Etc.	15 "
Ground Almonds	4 "

## MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

### Regulation 2.

No action was taken during the year.

### MILK. Registered Distributors.

At the end of the year there were 44 Registered Distributors of milk in the District.

### Special Designated Milk.

In April 1956, the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) Order, 1956, came into force, and so far as this District is concerned it became necessary for retailers to sell only designated milk; designated milk comprises:- "Tuberculin Tested", "Pasteurised" and "Sterilised" milk.

The following licences were issued during the year:-

Dealer's licence to use Special Designation Pasteurised	16
Dealer's licence to use Special Designation Sterilised	22
Dealer's licence to use Special Designation Tuberculin Tested	14

### ICE CREAM.

There were no new registrations for the manufacture of ice cream during the year. Manufacturers with one exception are in a small way only making what they themselves retail. In some cases the business is not continuous even in summer.

Not all premises registered for manufacture are used for that purpose; some are retail ice cream purchased from larger manufacturers.

The number of premises on the register at the end of the year was:-

Registered for the Manufacture, Storage and Sale	11
Registered for Storage and Sale only	64
Total	75

The following figures show the number registered since 1948:-

1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
21	31	47	58	61	62	69	72	75



The Number of Food Premises of the Various Types in the District at the end of the year was:-

TYPE OF BUSINESS.	No.
General grocers and provision dealers .. .. .	128
Greengrocers and fruiterers (incl. those selling wet fish, game etc.) .. .. .	3
Fishmongers (incl. those selling poultry, game, etc. .. .. .	"
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc. .. .. .	13
Bakers and/or confectioners .. .. .	23
Fried fish shops .. .. .	10
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc.	25
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	114
Others .. .. .	1

The Number of Food Premises Registered Under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the Lancashire County Council Act, was :-

Type of Business	Legislation under which registration effected	No. registered at 31.12.56	No. of inspections of registered premises during year
Manufacture, Storage and Sale of Ice Cream	County Act and Food & Drugs Act.	75	75
Preserved Fish	Food & Drugs Act.	8	10
Preserved Meat	"	7	7
Hawkers	County Act.	61	12

DISPOSAL OF WASTE FOOD.

Carcass Meat.

Any carcass meat found unfit for food is stained, and in this District it is collected by the trade for processing.

Other food, tinned, etc., is normally disposed of on refuse tips.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955.

The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 came into operation early in the year. A guide to the regulations which summarised them was forwarded to the occupiers of all food premises in the District. In addition to this numerous discussions on the subject took place with individual food traders.

## S C H O O L S.

There are 32 schools in the District including the Rivington and Blackrod Grammar School.

The School Medical Services are administered by the County Council and separate reports are issued.

### WATER SUPPLY.

All schools with the exception of the Grammar School and the School at Rivington are supplied with water from the Council's Mains.

Rivington Grammar School has a special supply from Liverpool Corporation.

The village school at Rivington has a special supply but the service pipes appear to be the responsibility of the School Authorities.

### SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

2 of the 32 schools have water closets, some are drained to the main sewer and some to private drainage tanks.

For some time now at least one school on the conservancy system has been converted to the water carriage system during the year. Unfortunately that is not so this year; however, arrangements have been made in several cases for conversion and the result of this work will be shown next year.

The schools not provided with water closets all have pail closets which are emptied weekly.

All the schools have dust-bins.

## H O U S I N G.

The table on page 17 summarises the work carried out in connection with Housing during the year.

It will be noticed that 3 houses were either demolished, or closed as a result of either undertakings or closing orders, during the year. Prior to this 49 houses had been dealt with so that the total dealt with since the war to the end of 1956 was 52. In two cases Undertakings have been determined on the houses being made fit.

In addition a considerable amount of work had been done in connection with the clearance in preparation for the first years programme of replacement of houses.

### NEW HOUSES.

During the year 151 new houses were erected in the District. This figure includes 10 houses which were erected together with other houses by the Local Authority.

The following tables summarise the position at the end of 1956.



1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:-			
(1) (a) Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)			134
(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose.			350
(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:			
(a) Number Reported to Ministry in 1955.			420 approx
(b) Total estimated number existing at the end of 1956.			390
(3) No. of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit.			94
2. Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954)			
(1) No. of dwelling-houses demolished during year;			
(a) Unfit houses			Nil
(b) Other houses			Nil
(2) No. of persons displaced			Nil
3. Houses not included in Clearance Areas:-			
(1) Houses demolished or closed during year;	Houses	Persons Displaced	
(a) Housing Act, 1936.-			
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 11)	5	7	
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners Under Section 11 and still in force .. .. .	19	45	
(iii) Parts of building closed (Section 12) . .. .	-	-	
(b) Housing Act, 1949.-			
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 3(1) and 3(2) ..	-	-	
(c) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 -			
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10(1) and 11(2)	6	15	
(2) Repairs during the year:		No. of Houses.	
(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of <u>informal action</u> by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts.		68	
(b) Public Health Acts - action after service of <u>formal notices</u> - Houses in which defects were remedied -			
(i) By owners .. .. .		26	
(ii) By local authority in default of owners .. ..		-	
(c) Housing Act, 1936 - action after service of <u>formal notice</u> (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16) Houses made fit -			
(i) By owners .. .. .		Nil	
(ii) By local authority in default of owners .. ..		Nil	
(d) Housing Repair and Rents Act, 1954; Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5)		None	

#### 4. Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954)

(1) No. of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7 .. .. .	None
(2) Number of separate dwellings contained in (1) above .. .. .	None
(3) Number of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6). .. .. .	None

#### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

A large number of applications for improvement grants were made during the year under review and with the exception of one they were all approved. The following table summarises the position.

	<u>Private bodies or individuals</u>	
	<u>No. of Schemes</u>	<u>No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected</u>
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority .. .. .	45	46
(b) Approved by local authority .. .. .	44	45
(c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry .. .. .	-	-
(d) Finally approved by Ministry .. .. .	-	-
(e) Work completed. .. .. .	81	82
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above .. .. .	-	1

During the last three years the applications total 114

#### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

The use of moveable dwellings in the District presented no major public health problems.

The District is little used by genuine campers, by far the greater majority of van users in the area are people whose desire it is to use them as permanent homes, and there are a number of such vans in the District.

There are no sites licensed under the Public Health Act but a few licences for individual vans were issued for short periods.

Control of vans is also obtained under the powers of the Town Planning Act.

There are a number of vans in the District which are exempt, e.g. vans in which vans are used by members of the family.

#### SHOPS.

Inspection of shops is carried out on behalf of the County Council.

A large proportion of the shops in the District are house/shops operated by the family.

The estimated number of shops in 1956 numbered 170.

### SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There are approximately 20 factory chimneys in the area and these emit a certain amount of smoke on occasions.

Complaints if not absent are very rare.

Any discussion with operators always brings forth the information that suitable fuel is unobtainable.

No legal action was taken.

Two complaints of a smoke nuisance were received and investigated during the year. the smoke was not from chimneys but from the burning of waste in the open. No legal action was taken and the sites are more or less under regular observation.

### The Clean Air Act, 1956.

The Clean Air Act, 1956 was passed during the year and will come into operation on the appointed day. The Act forms part of the Public Health Code and extends the function of Local Authorities.

Different days may be appointed for different purposes, the first appointed day was December 20th, 1956, when Local Authorities became responsible for enforcement of Sections 5,10,11,18, and any regulations made under Section 4, and for the making of byelaws under Section 24.

Section 5 deals with new furnaces, Section 10 with the heights of chimneys, Section 11 with Smoke Control Areas and Section 18 with burning spoil banks. Section 4 empowers the Minister to make regulations relating to indicating and recording apparatus.

Section 24 relating to Building Byelaws was not dealt with during 1956 but did receive consideration later.

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

A lot of work as usual was carried out under the powers of the Public Health Act, and the following figures summarise it:-

Nuisances and defects discovered,	395
Nuisances abated and defects remedied,	369
Number of informal notices served	468
Number of Statutory Notices served	96
Number of visits, inspections and reinspections made during the year was:-	5,982

### RODENT CONTROL.

A summary of the work carried out in 1956 is given in the table on page 20.

A Rodent Operator is employed by the Council but his work is not confined entirely to rodent control.

Complaints are not numerous.

Co-operation was maintained with the staff of the Agricultural Executive Committee.

All Council owned properties, sewers, sewage disposal works, refuse tips are inspected regularly and treated when necessary.



RODENT CONTROL Contd.

The following table summarises the work done during the year:-

TYPE OF PROPERTY.					
	Non-agricultural				Agricultural
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	All other (including Business Premises)	Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District.	19	7,511	440	7,970	675
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	-	40	15	55	-
(b) Survey under the Act	19	2,714	319	3,052	262
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	-	-	-	-	-
III. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. 11) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats					
Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	16	43	13	72	4
(b) Mice					
Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	-	5	-	5	-
IV. Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority.	16	47	10	73	-
V. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act					
(a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing)	-	-	-	-	-
VI. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
VII. Legal Proceedings.	-	-	-	-	-
VIII. No. of "Homes" visited and inspected.	-	-	-	-	-

# FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

The following tables summaries the work done in connection with factories during the year.

## PART 1 OF THE ACT.

### 1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4, & 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	14	15	-	-
(11) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	75	36	-	-
(111) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outwork premises)	12	4	-	-
TOTAL	101	55	-	-

### 2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
Total.	2	2	-	-	-

Number of outworkers in August list required by Section 11 (i) (c)  
Wearing apparel - Making etc. 19



PETROLEUM REGULATIONS.

78 licences to store petroleum spirit were issued during the year.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

Section 47 Removal of Persons in need of proper care and attention.

No action was taken during the year.

I am,  
Your obedient Servant,

J. Walker,

Medical Officer of Health.

